



Karen Cornish, a therapy aid, helps a resident feel at home in the new center. The residents, who are all mentally retarded in addition to being physically disabled, were transferred to the center from Willowbrook Monday.

S.I. Advance Photos by Robert Parsons



Dr. Guenther J. Gnatzy examines a resident while assisted by Mrs. Lucille Slue, director of nursing. During the first few weeks all residents will undergo a complete physical examination and evaluation.

horn, executive director of the United Cerebral Palsy Association of New York State, residents of the treatment center will spend their first few weeks undergoing medical examinations and evaluations.

Once each resident has been evaluated, an individual program will be worked out according to the results of the evaluation. Residents will undergo periodic evaluations for progress.

As each progresses, it is hoped he or she will be able to leave the facility to take part in sheltered workshops, where they will receive a small salary for their service. One of the residents has already been placed in a workshop in

Queens where she is bused daily and then returned to the center.

The new building where the treatment center is housed is provided by the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, which also gave United Cerebral Palsy a \$750,000 grant to start the center.

Schonhorn, UCP director explained that the Nina Eaton

Treatment Center is the only privately operated intermediate care facility of its kind for the mentally retarded and physically disabled. In this position, the center is being watched carefully and is regarded as an experiment.

"Presently its going to cost us much more to care for a resident here than it does at Willowbrook, but if we can get the cost per resident down to

what it now costs at Willowbrook, without sacrificing our care and rehabilitation efforts, then the center will be a great success," he said.

If the Eaton center can accomplish this within the next few years, Schonhorn feels there may be an excellent chance of small, intensive-care treatment and rehabilitation centers replacing large institutions such as Willowbrook in the near future.

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